

In response to a submission on 12/12 by a young lady wanting someone to explain to her the thought process and reasons for being in the eastern time zone. My thought process is as follows:

Yes, we do live only a couple of hours from Chicago, but we only live 10 minutes from Michigan. We also live only about an hour from the Ohio line as well. Both Ohio and Michigan are currently on EST. The state south of us, Kentucky also observes the eastern time zone. I do not think of a state 600 miles away (NY) when comparing Indiana to the "nearby" states. I think of how this will impact most people's day to day lives, mainly if St Joseph and Elkhart County end up on two different time zones. I currently take classes at IUSB which are over at 9:25 pm which puts me home at 10. If St Joseph County's petition is approved, I will be getting home at 11 my time and have to be up at 5 for work the following morning. My son works just across the border in Michigan, so changing the clocks in my home is not an option.. I would end up with two clocks on two different times in one home. If the entire state of Indiana goes on Central time, and if you were to look at a map of the time zones in the United States, you would see that moving Indiana to CST would leave a huge chunk and empty spot where the surrounding states lie. Indiana "fits" very naturally in the Eastern time zone if you are to look at the surrounding states. I would personally rather be on the same time as the three states surrounding me as well as the capital of my state, not a state 100 miles away.

Thank you for allowing me to explain my thoughts on the matter. Hope this helps.